

billion stimulus bill, at least on the gentleman's side passed it, and we saw the effects of spending that kind of money did not produce the kind of job creation that was desired or was promised. And if I recall, some of the economists that the gentleman refers to probably were ones that supported the notion that the stimulus bill would make sure that unemployment didn't exceed 8 percent if we went ahead and spent that money. I think we've tried that before.

The gentleman also knows that we are borrowing nearly 40 cents out of every dollar we are spending. That is unsustainable. And so if the gentleman's focus is to spend more money from Washington to create jobs, then essentially we are creating jobs and paying people we can't afford to pay.

So what the position is from our side of the aisle, Mr. Speaker, is we want to be honest with the people. We want to look for long-term solutions that get this economy going again.

We all know that most jobs are created in the private sector. We all know that most jobs come from the entrepreneurial aspirations of the people of this country. It is they who continue to point to Washington as the problem. It is they who say that government's explosive growth, government's continued and increasing appetite for capital is making it so we can't see investment occur here in this country. And if you want to fix the economy, deal with the deficit. That's what we're trying to do, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comment.

And certainly, I agree with him that we need to deal with the deficit. As the gentleman knows, I've been pretty vocal about that and indicated that we need to look at the whole spectrum of spending. Focusing on 14 percent of the budget will not get us there. I think the gentleman probably agrees with that proposition. I know the chairman of the Budget Committee agrees with that proposition. I may not agree with the chairman of the Budget Committee on how he wants to get there, but I think we do agree that we have to look at all of the spending that we do, and that bringing down the deficit is of critical consequence.

Let me say to the gentleman, however, when he speaks about jobs, as he knows, we lost 3.8 million jobs in 2008, the last year of the Bush administration. The last year of the Obama administration, the last 12 months, we have gained 1.1 million private sector jobs. So when the gentleman says that the Recovery Act did not have the effect that the administration hoped for, he is correct. We went up above the 8 percent unemployment. But the gentleman, I'm sure, knows that during the last 12 months we have gained jobs on an average of 569,000 over the last 5 months, so half a million jobs.

Is that enough? It's not. Frankly, we are going to have to be at 300,000 or 400,000 per month to overcome the

number of jobs that were lost prior to or during the recession which started, of course, in 2007.

So I want to agree with the gentleman and hope that we can work together on looking at the entire challenge that confronts us in bringing this deficit down. But I tell my friend to continually focus, as the gentleman has been doing in this colloquy and in other colloquies, on simply the discretionary spending, non-defense and non-security spending, while we certainly need to cut fraud, waste, and abuse, cut duplication and make government simpler and more accessible and more cost effective for the American people, we also need to be, as you said, honest with the American people that if you cut out every penny of the portion of the budget at which you are looking, we will not solve the deficit problem.

So I say to my friend, I will look forward to working with him. Our side looks forward to working with him and his side. I have had discussions—I see Mr. DREIER on the floor. We need to work together on this issue because the gentleman is correct; it is a critical area.

Unless the gentleman wants more time, I will yield back.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CANTOR. I would just say to the gentleman—and thank you for the courtesy of yielding—that is exactly why we are turning to mandatory spending next week. As the gentleman knows, we'll be fast on the discussion of the budget as well. As the gentleman knows and can expect that our budget will approach the issue of entitlements, and we feel it very necessary for us to begin that discussion. And, frankly, we're dismayed by the fact that the White House did not include any mention or discussion or did not deal with entitlements in its budget proposal.

So we hope, and I know the gentleman is earnest in his desire to want to try and deal with the deficit both on the discretionary and the mandatory side. I look forward to working with him toward that end.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

Just in concluding on that, the administration did, of course, appoint a commission, Mr. Bowles and Senator Simpson, which did, in fact, look at the spectrum of spending and made some very substantive recommendations. The administration has commended those recommendations to us for consideration.

□ 1440

But the administration also said that we need to make sure that we invest in growing our economy if we expect to bring the deficit down, investing in the education of our children, investing in our infrastructure, investing in innovation and invention. I agree with the administration on that. I think we need to be very careful that we pay attention to both the investments and to the reduction of the deficits.

HOURLY MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. tomorrow; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, when it shall convene at 2 p.m. for morning-hour debate and 4 p.m. for legislative business; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

PASS FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I didn't want to prolong the colloquy, but I have to say that both my friends, Mr. HOYER and Mr. CANTOR, were talking about the imperative for job creation and economic growth.

There is a bipartisan consensus in this institution; we all want to see private sector jobs created. We have an opportunity to work together in a bipartisan way to do something that President Obama addressed in his State of the Union message here in this Chamber. He talked about the need for us to pass first the U.S.-Korea free trade agreement; and he also included, I am happy to say, the Colombia and Panama agreements.

All of those agreements have been pending. The Colombia and Panama agreements actually preceded the Korean agreement; and we know if we were to pass all three of these pending trade agreements, we could create good union and nonunion jobs here in this country in the manufacturing sectors of our economy.

If you look at companies like Caterpillar, John Deere, Whirlpool, other manufacturing companies right here in the United States, creating an opportunity for those union and non-working union members to sell their products into Latin America is very important. Let's create jobs; let's pass all three of these agreements.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE SILVERSMITH

(Mr. LUJÁN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marine Corporal Joe Silversmith, who passed away earlier this week at the age of 86. As a Navajo code talker, Corporal Silversmith earned the Silver Congressional Medal of Honor for his service during World War II when he answered the call of duty and served his country in the South Pacific from 1943 to 1946.

Corporal Silversmith was part of an invaluable group of Navajo men who transmitted secret communications during the war that contributed to victory for the Allied forces.

As we take this moment to remember the contributions of Corporal Silversmith, we are reminded of the brave service of all Navajo code talkers. Corporal Silversmith and his brothers in arms were nothing short of heroes for their efforts during the war. Joe Silversmith went on to become a minister after returning home from the war and a well-respected member of the community, always supporting those he ministered to. He will be missed.

As we mourn the passing of Joe Silversmith and celebrate his life, my thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Ramona, and their two daughters during this sad time.

EARLY EDUCATION VITAL FOR CHILDREN

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I met with parents of young children in Davie, Florida, in my district who attend early childhood education classes at Crayons Child Care. We spoke about how vital early education is in the development of young children; how early education increases high school graduation rates; how 50 years of solid research has shown that early childhood education reduces crimes and delinquency and yields up to a \$7 return on every dollar invested.

Unfortunately, though, with the passage of H.R. 1 just over a week ago, this body made the largest cut to education in our Nation's history. Now, we all understand that our Nation needs to cut spending; but the society that balances its budgets on the back of its children should not be surprised when the spine of its future is broken. These children are 2, 3, and 4 years old, but the response from Republicans in the House of Representatives is that they would pay for it. That just doesn't make sense. It is morally wrong.

SAFETY OF TRAVELING PUBLIC

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today President Obama and the Mexican President announced in short order Mexico will begin to reduce its extortionate tariffs on U.S. goods, many from my district and my State. That is good news. But we shouldn't accept a bad deal with Mexico that jeopardizes the safety of the traveling public on our highways; that further jeopardizes our security on the border of Mexico; and, finally, that puts at risk hundreds of thousands of American jobs.

Just think about it: What American trucking company is going to send

their trucks south of the border into the lawless zones with the extortion and the kidnapping and everything else going on down there? No. If we give Mexico free license to drive north into the upper 48 States of the United States, we will lose hundreds of thousands of jobs.

So it is good news they are addressing the tariffs, but we are going to be scrutinizing the details of any deal that this President reaches with the President of Mexico to protect the safety of our traveling public, the security of our borders, and American jobs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the earlier request of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) to insert extraneous material in the RECORD is granted.

There was no objection.

□ 1010

JOB DISCRIMINATION IS AS PROFOUND AS RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

(Mr. JACKSON of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, unemployment rates are too high in our Nation: around 9 percent nationally, and within our minority populations, that rate is even higher.

Finding a job is already difficult for hundreds of thousands of Americans, yet a growing number of employers are excluding jobless applicants from consideration—making the job search nearly impossible for those who are unemployed.

Companies have begun to post descriptions of vacancies including statements like “unemployed applicants will not be considered” or “must be currently employed,” leaving those in the most dire need of a job high and dry. It's a practice that I utterly oppose. Congress must put an end to it.

It reminds me of when blacks, women, and Asians were told they need not apply. Mr. Speaker, how on Earth can an unemployed person find a job if he or she is barred from applying?

Unemployment discrimination is as profound as racial discrimination. This is an appalling form of discrimination that deeply harms all Americans, hinders companies from finding the best workers, and further disables our economy. It should not be tolerated in America or anywhere else.

I again call on those plagued by unemployment and joblessness to send me their resumes and their stories to ResumesForAmerica@mail.House.gov.

AMERICARESUMESFOR

From: Joseph Drake [j.drake@hotmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 2:19 PM

To: americaresumesfor

Subject: My Resume and Story

DEAR CONGRESS: I am 60 years old, too young to be retired, too old to be unem-

ployed. In the current economy and at my age and health my chances of re-employment diminish. I wasn't planning to retire early, but rather late, because of my small amount of savings. Now, when I do get a job again, I will have to postpone retirement even longer. I had almost no contacts about employment in spite of applying for about 6 to 12 jobs a week since I lost my job. My economic circumstances had gradually eroded so that I had to start living in a rooming house.

Since I returned to Seattle, in 1993, I have largely worked in either retail or parking and had worked for Ampco Parking for 13 years. I haven't had even 72 hours of work since I lost my job last September, and am almost completely dependent on my unemployment check. My bills are piling up. I am planning to start selling my book collection and some of my Videos and DVD's. I am planning to discount my landline and depend solely on my cell phone.

I have lived a diverse and interesting life. Like Obama, I was once a community organizer. I organized A Tenants Union in Santa Cruz, CA once, and then worked in organizing low income workers and neighborhoods, helping their causes and providing services. I have always been someone to volunteer, stating in high school or get involved, and to think of the needs of others. I volunteer at my church on movie nights, as an usher, and on the Peace and Justice Committee.

I have also been a journalist in the past. Now write two blogs and do other online writing. One of the blogs is about my unemployment and life in the margins of America, drawing perspective from the Catholic Worker movement and the social teachings of the church and the bible. My other blog is about the arts. Although I have my own political and religious bias expressed in my blogs, I have my non-Catholic, even non-religious friends, and many conservative friends. In fact some of my blog followers are conservatives to disagree with my solutions, my way of interpreting the social teachings of the church, but admire my concern for the poor and sympathize with my situation. I will probably post a copy of this email for them to read and put a link from my Facebook page to the blog post.

Now I am one of those in need, going to food banks, getting my coffee at Jack in the Box for 55 cents by asking for the senior discount, cutting every corner and buying only what I absolutely need. I hang out in lines with desperate looking characters.

I am uninsured, as Cobra was too expensive for me when I lost my job and I have what was supposed to be a sprain to the finger, but which was probably X-Rayed from the wrong angle, and seems like a permanent injury and deformation. While I can work and use my hand, I can't type with my small finger, or close it completely. Short of going back to the ER and getting more unpayable bills, without benefits I have no means to treat it.

I am hanging in their with the support and prayers of a great church community, my family and friends, my Facebook friends and blog readers. I try to be thankful to God every day for each little thing he provides me and to focus on the bigger issues—like the struggles of the Egyptian people, our nations problems, everyone else who is poor or unemployed. I am hoping, that like the 1930's, we will end the decade as a less selfish, more cooperative, more optimistic nation that when we entered these hard times. I will pray for our nations leaders tonight, that all of you get granted the wisdom to help our suffering people.

I have attached, saved in SkyDrive, my general purpose resume. I have of course